

CANBERRA HIGHLIGHTS

Nestled between mountains and surrounded by bushland, Canberra is the perfect addition to an Australian east-coast itinerary. Discover some of Australia's finest seasonal dining, coffee that has won awards around the world, wildlife spotting, and expertly guided behind-the-scenes tours, all in Australia's capital, Canberra.

Lake Burley Griffin

DAY 1

**Arrive in Canberra,
Australia's national capital.**

MORNING –

The heart of the nation

- Appreciate democracy in action at Australia's **Parliament House**. Join the **Best of Parliament** tour (booking required, departs 10am, 45min, \$) to experience the must-see highlights such as the Great Hall, architectural features, the chambers, and significant artworks. Open daily, free general admission.

▼ Drive 5-minutes / 3km.

- With waterfront views of **Lake Burley Griffin**, enjoy lunch at **The Marion** overlooking many of Canberra's cultural attractions and Commonwealth Park. Visit the **Canberra and Region Visitors Centre** right next door for more inspiration and to pick up some exquisite local products.

▼ Drive 11-minutes / 8km.

AFTERNOON –

Discover rich culture

- After lunch, **Walk on Country** with **Ngala Tours** (booking required, times vary, 1-hour, \$) where an Indigenous guide will bring the landscape to life, hear about the many uses of native plants and learn how to throw a boomerang! Enjoy some of the best views of Canberra alongside the **Forest Sculpture Gallery** and the **National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia** all at the **National Arboretum Canberra**. Open daily, free general admission.

▼ Drive 11-minutes / 9 km.

- Join an expert guide for an engaging private tour **A Place to Remember** (booking required, confirm time upon booking, 90min, \$) at the **Australian War Memorial** and connect with powerful stories of courage, mateship, and devotion told through the exhibits and collections. Stay and participate in the moving **Last Post Ceremony** which commemorates a person from the Roll of Honour every day at 4.30pm. Open daily, free general admission with online booking.



Australian Parliament House



Ngala Tours



Australian War Memorial

EVENING –

A foodie paradise

- Choose from one of the many featured restaurants, discover **Canberra's nightlife** and enjoy a nightcap and live jazz at **Molly**.



Balloon Aloft, Lake Burley Griffin

DAY 2

MORNING –

For the best views in town

- Start the day at dawn in a hot air balloon with **Balloon Aloft** (booking required, departing 5am summer / 6am winter, 3-4 hour total tour time, \$) and bask in stunning dawn colours – part exhilarating, part relaxing, this is one of the best ways to view the lake, city and mountain ranges.

▼ Drive 11-minutes / 9 km

- In a beautifully landscaped setting, at the **National Zoo & Aquarium**, view native and exotic wildlife from around the world, from cuddly koalas, curious meerkats, cheeky monkeys to the giant cats and towering giraffes. For a memorable and thrilling experience, get up close and personal with your favorite animal in a **Close Encounter** (booking required, times vary, \$). Open daily, 9.30am-5pm, entry fee applies.

▼ Drive 14-minutes / 13 km

- Sit back and relax at **Beltana Farm** for a paddock to plate lunch offering a sophisticated rural experience within the city (Thursday to Sunday).

AFTERNOON –

See native Australian animals

- Canberra is a city surrounded by nature. Join the **Best of Wildlife** tour (booking required, departs 1pm winter / 3pm summer, 4 hours, \$) to learn about and spot kangaroos, koalas, emus, and platypus at the peaceful **Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve**. **Canberra Guided Tours** also offer bespoke private tours.



National Zoo & Aquarium

EVENING –

A night at the theatre

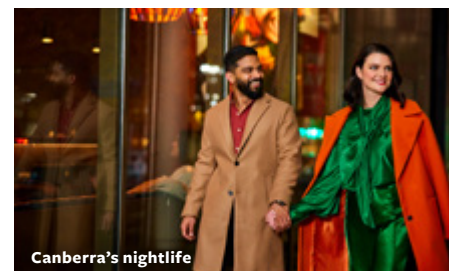
- Choose from one of the many featured restaurants, discover **Canberra's nightlife** and enjoy a nightcap and live jazz at **Molly**. The **Canberra Theatre** offers a curated selection of international and Australian performances spanning from block buster musicals, theatre, comedy, and dance. Finish with a nightcap at one of **Canberra's best hidden bars**.



Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve



Beltana Farm



Canberra's nightlife



National Gallery of Australia. The Alhalkere Suite © Emily K Ngwarreye/Copyright Agency, 2019.

DAY 3

MORNING –

Explore the senses

- Kick start the day with a warm brew and breakfast at a café featuring local blends and produce such as **The Cupping Room**, with award-winning coffee by ONA.

▼ Drive 8-minutes / 3.5 km

- Visit the **National Gallery of Australia** to enjoy the world's largest collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, a significant Australian and international collection, and Sculpture Garden. A guided **Collection Tour** (booking required, departs 10.30am, 1 hour, free) will provide unique insight into the highlights at the gallery. Open daily, 10pm–5pm, admission is free with an online booking.



Indulgent wine tours

AFTERNOON –

Savour the wine region

- The Canberra Wine District celebrates over 40 cellar doors within 35 minutes from the city centre, where you can explore, sip, and savor the essence of this unique cool climate wine region. Join **Van du Vin** for a private **Petit Tour du Vin** wine tasting tour (booking required, departs 11am, 4 hours, \$) visiting three local wineries and a 2-course lunch.
- Enjoy the stunning colours of a Canberra afternoon on a self-drive electric powered **GoBoat** on Lake Burley Griffin for a lazy afternoon – preorder drinks and cheese platter to go. Available daily, times and prices vary.



GoBoat

EVENING –

When the sun goes down

- Enjoy an early dinner at **Wilbark Café** then, just before sunset at **Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary**, take a **Twilight Tour** (booking required, 2 hours, \$) spotlighting journey in the predator-proof sanctuary through woodlands to learn about the conservation programs for the Eastern Quoll and Eastern Bettong.
- Then liven up the evening with underground jazz, cocktails or comedy.



Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary



She Shapes History

DAY 4

MORNING – *Spies and social history*

- For a different take on history, join **She Shapes History, Badass Women of Canberra: The Women who shaped Canberra** walking tour (bookings required, depart 10am, 2-hours, \$) who bring history to life by unearthing secrets and stories from unassuming public sites.
- To continue the social history of Canberra and Australia, the iconic Art Deco **Museum of Australian Democracy** (Old Parliament House) is a living museum of social and political history reflecting on democratic values, political and social rights through exhibitions, political cartoons, and hands on family fun. Open daily, 9am–5pm, free general admission.

▼ Drive 6-minutes / 4 km

AFTERNOON – *Stories of Australia*

- Enjoy lakeside dining at the **National Museum of Australia** café and browse the Museum shop before traversing the vast, vibrant Australian continent in the **Great Southern Land** tour (bookings required, departs 2pm, 45min, \$) of the environmental history gallery. Open daily, 9am–5pm, free general admission, fees may apply.

WANT TO EXTEND YOUR STAY?

EVENING – *Indulge for a night at Jamala Wildlife Lodge!*

- For the ultimate overnight safari experience in Canberra, check in to **Jamala Wildlife Lodge** at 1pm in time for afternoon tea and a private tour of the **National Zoo & Aquarium**.
- After an afternoon of exploring the zoo, enjoy an exclusive experience along with selected special guests, such as white lions, for pre-dinner drinks followed by a four-course dinner party with wine and champagne in a rainforest cave. Retire to a luxury treehouse or garden pavilion adjoining animal enclosures.
- After waking to the roar of lions or a curious giraffe at your verandah, enjoy an a la carte breakfast and guided tour.



Jamala Wildlife Lodge

MARKETS TO EXPLORE

Canberra Region
Farmers Market (Saturday's)
Little Burley Market (Saturday's)
Haig Park Markets (Sunday's)
Old Bus Depot Markets (Sunday's)

DINING SUGGESTIONS

Akiba, Bar Rochford,
Vincent, Onzime, Monster,
Raku, 86, Inka

HOTEL SUGGESTIONS

The Avenue, Midnight Hotel,
Hotel Kurrajong, QT,
Little National, Ovolo Nishi,
Novotel, Hyatt Hotel